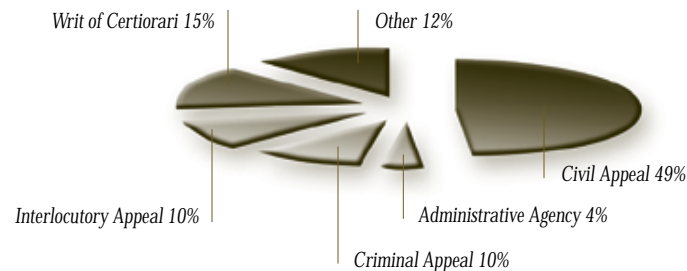
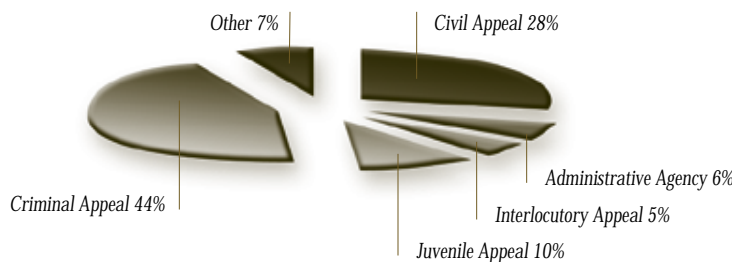


# Caseload Highlights

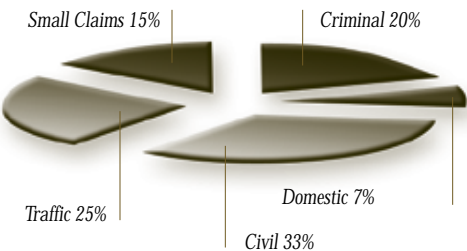
## Supreme Court



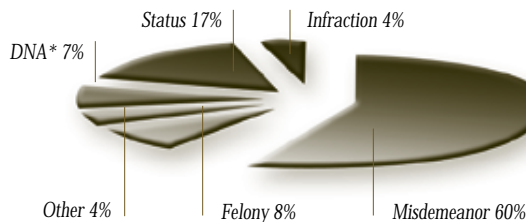
## Court of Appeals



## District Courts

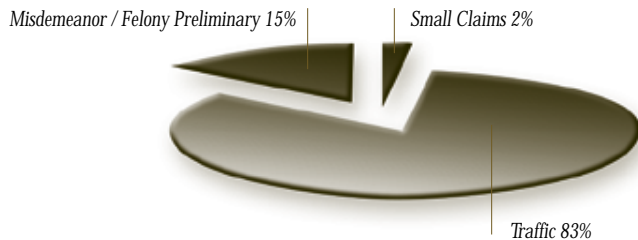


## Juvenile Courts



\*Dependency / Neglect / Abuse

## Justice Courts



For more information on the Utah State Courts caseload, go to: <http://courtlink.utcourts.gov/stats>

The Courts Information Line is available to assist court patrons with answers to questions that cannot be addressed by local court personnel.

The information line is staffed from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. each business day. Voice mail is available for persons calling outside of those hours.

• Within Salt Lake County: 578-3942 • Elsewhere within Utah: 1-888-640-COURT (2687)

Dial-The-Court Automated Information Lines:

• Salt Lake District Court - 801-238-7830 • Ogden & Roy District Court - 801-395-1111 • Provo & Orem District Court - 801-429-1000



Richard C. Howe,  
Chief Justice of the  
Utah Supreme Court



*On behalf of our dedicated judges and court staff, we are pleased to provide this year's Report to the Community on the work taking place in courthouses across the state. This year's report highlights activities within the individual districts which make up the state court system. We welcome this opportunity to provide this report and hope that the material which follows will encourage you to learn even more about your courts and their important role in our form of government. We would also like to use this opportunity to express appreciation to Governor Leavitt and members of the Legislature for their commitment to and support of our state's court system.*

Richard C. Howe  
Chief Justice Utah Supreme Court

Daniel J. Becker  
State Court Administrator

*Since April of 1998, Richard C. Howe has led Utah's courts in his capacity as Supreme Court Chief Justice and Chair of the Utah Judicial Council. In April of 2002, Chief Justice Howe will conclude his term as our Chief Justice. All of us within the courts are indebted to him for his steady leadership and support of programs that strive to improve access to the courts, ensure fairness to all members of our community, and provide for the efficient and accountable administration of our courts. Initiatives during Chief Justice Howe's tenure have included: taking mediation programs and drug courts statewide in both the District and Juvenile Courts, instituting procedures for enhancing the participation of jurors, the judiciary leading an effort to address racial and ethnic fairness in the criminal justice system, and significant advances in court technology, such as the Online Court Assistance Program for self-represented litigants. His mark on the administration of justice will be a lasting one.*

*Thank you, Chief Justice Howe.*

Daniel J. Becker  
State Court Administrator

## Enhancing Trust in the Court System

Believing the public's trust in the judicial system is enhanced through strengthening our community ties, encouraging dialogue, and providing education and information to our constituents, the Utah State Courts have committed all members of the judiciary to public outreach.

Outreach efforts this year have focused on integrating the courts and law-related education into school systems and enhancing communication with ethnic communities. A far-reaching project called "Education for Justice" brings together the judiciary, the Utah State Bar Association, and the Law-Related Education Project in collaboration with the Utah Board of Education to rewrite portions of the statewide social studies core curriculum for grades 7-12. When completed, the curriculum will include an understanding of the rule of law, the function of government and constitutional federalism, as well as skills in problem solving, conflict resolution, communication, and negotiation. Attorneys and judges within each school district have volunteered to provide in-school support.

Court-Community Forums on immigration law and juvenile justice have been sponsored in conjunction with the Multi-Cultural Legal Center, and the Salt Lake Branch of the NAACP. On-going outreach projects include presentations by judges to schools, using resources including the award-winning "Parent-to-Parent" videotape. The courts also provide many services to self-represented litigants, as well as court tours.

## Improving Jury Service

In 2001, the Utah judiciary continued its work to improve the service of citizens selected as jurors. The two most important developments in the last year have been to adopt a system that better defines the amount of time one might be called for jury service and to better protect jurors' privacy.

One day – one trial is the common shorthand phrase used to describe the maximum allowable time a person can be summoned for jury service: one day, unless longer service is necessary to complete a trial. The practical effect of one day – one trial is that most jurors serve for only one day or part of one day. A person selected for a multi-day trial will, of course, have to return until the trial is done; however trials of more than one day are relatively rare. One day – one trial provides a greater assurance that all Utah citizens have an equal opportunity to serve as a juror and that no one person is utilized more than another. This shortened term of jury service has been implemented statewide.

Jury service is one of the few remaining examples of direct democratic action. In a jury trial, citizens determine the life, liberty, and property rights of others. Jurors have an important responsibility to their peers, whom they represent. Our state and federal constitutions require that jury trials be open to the public, including the jury selection process. However, despite being compelled to do the public's business, jurors have a right to their personal privacy and the Utah courts are committed to protecting those rights. To that end, the Judicial Council has adopted a rule that keeps the addresses and phone numbers of jurors private. The names of the jurors who try a case are public records, but a juror can request that his or her name be kept private. This represents a delicate but sound balance between the rights of individuals to privacy and the public's right to accountability.

### Assisting Self-Represented Litigants

The number of litigants seeking court services without the representation of an attorney continued to grow in 2001. For many litigants, the cost of legal representation is prohibitive. For others, there is a belief that the services of an attorney are not necessary for their particular needs. Whatever the reason, Utah's state courts continue to work to help all court users effectively navigate the court system and to make its services available to all.

Addressing the needs of the self-represented litigant takes many forms. Courts routinely refer those who qualify for free or reduced-fee legal services to available resources. Those who do not qualify are referred to programs offered by the Utah State Bar and to clinics staffed by pro bono attorneys.

A new technology tool, the Online Court Assistance Program (OCAP), funded by the legislature in 1999, completed its first full year of operation in 2001. This user-friendly web-based service walks individuals through the decision-making process required to generate the documents necessary to file uncontested divorce and landlord-tenant court cases. In its first year of operation, over 1,100 self-represented litigants filed court documents they generated through this program.

Violence Against Women Act (V.A.W.A.) funding was received in 2001 to expand this online tool to those filing for court-ordered protection. In addition, legislators, legal services providers, private practitioners, and court officials who serve as policy advisors to OCAP have approved the expansion of OCAP to include cases involving guardianship of a minor child. Both of these services are in development and will be available in 2002.

### Addressing Growing Diversity

In September 2000, the Utah Judicial Council's Task Force on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Legal System completed its tenure by issuing a Final Report with recommendations on how to improve the system. In September 2001, the Commission on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice System was established with the courts continuing a leadership role in advancing the systemic change called for in the Task Force report. Participating in the Commission are representatives of the Department of Public Safety, the Board of Pardons, the Department of Corrections, the Utah State Bar, local law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, public defenders, assorted state and local justice programs, and the community at large.

To better serve the public in a culturally competent manner, the courts have begun a year-long process of training all employees to heighten their awareness of the many diverse identities in Utah. The courts are also collaborating with community organizations to host public forums, maximizing the synergy of working together to realize common goals.

### Using Technology to Improve Service and Efficiency

Technology affects nearly every operational and administrative aspect of court operation. When properly implemented and utilized, technology enhances the work of judges and clerks, and increases overall efficiency of court proceedings and information processing. Keeping the court record, managing court calendars and cases, accessing court records, and conducting video arraignment hearings all utilize technology to improve the services of the court.

Digital technology began improving the court record in 2001 with the installation of digital audio systems in several courtrooms around the state. Digital audio provides a superior quality court record, storage efficiencies, and the ability to efficiently transfer the record when transcription is required.

A milestone was reached this year when the Judicial Council's Standing Committee on Technology completed a strategic planning effort to move toward system-wide electronic filing of court documents. A road map for the process has been approved and initial projects, including electronic filing of debt collection cases, are in development.

### Solving Problems as Well as Disputes: Problem-Solving Courts

2001 saw a continued emphasis by the judiciary on problem-solving courts. Beginning in 1996, the Utah courts have increasingly embraced the notion that the role of the courts is not only to provide a neutral forum for the fair resolution of disputes, but also to seek collaborative solutions to the problems that bring people to court.

**Drug Court** - The most prevalent example of this new approach is the network of drug courts that has been created throughout the state. There is now at least one drug court in each of the eight judicial districts in Utah. These courts serve the adult felony drug court need and the first time juvenile offender, as well as parents who abuse or neglect their children because of drug dependency. There are currently almost 1,000 Utahns actively participating in drug courts of all types, and the results are overwhelmingly successful. Several independent evaluations have been conducted on the effectiveness of Utah's drug courts. The most recent study shows that within 18 months of "graduation", or completion of drug court, only 15.4% of drug court participants are rearrested for a drug-related offense. The savings to the criminal justice system, both courts and prisons, is significant. Drug courts are a great example of what happens when court and treatment resources are coordinated to solve a problem that cannot be solved with conventional means.

**Mental Health Court** - Another example of problem-solving efforts in Utah's courts is the pilot mental health court currently being run in Salt Lake City. After seeing mentally ill defendants repeatedly cycle through jail and the courts for relatively minor criminal charges, mental health and criminal justice officials began to search for a way to stop the cycle of mental illness in criminal activity. Based on drug court concepts, mental health court brings the criminal justice system and mental health treatment together. This cooperative effort provides both the incentives and deterrents necessary to encourage defendants to participate in therapy as appropriate, and take needed medications. In other states, the result has been decreased recidivism and increased compliance with court-ordered treatment.



The Organization of the Courts

UTAH SUPREME COURT - Five Justices: 10-year terms

The Supreme Court is the "court of last resort" in Utah. It hears appeals from capital and first-degree felony cases and all district court civil cases other than domestic relations cases. The Supreme Court also has jurisdiction over judgments of the Court of Appeals, proceedings of the Judicial Conduct Commission, lawyer discipline, and constitutional and election questions.

COURT OF APPEALS - Seven Judges: 6-year terms

The Court of Appeals hears all appeals from the Juvenile Courts and those from the District Courts involving domestic relations and criminal matters of less than a first-degree felony. It also may hear any cases transferred to it by the Supreme Court.

DISTRICT COURT -

Seventy Judges, Eight Court Commissioners

District Court is the state trial court of general jurisdiction. Among the cases it hears are:

- Civil Cases
- Domestic relations cases
- Probate cases
- Criminal cases
- Small claims cases
- Appeals from Justice Courts

JUVENILE COURT -

Twenty-five Judges, One Court Commissioner

Juvenile Court is the state court with jurisdiction over youths, under 18 years of age, who violate a state or municipal law, as well as adults who contribute to the delinquency of a minor. The Juvenile Court also has jurisdiction in all cases involving a child who is abused, neglected, or dependent

JUSTICE COURTS -

One hundred nineteen Judges

Located throughout Utah, Justice Courts are locally funded and operated courts. Justice Courts cases include:

- Misdemeanor criminal cases
- Traffic and parking infractions
- Small claims cases

The mission of the Utah Courts is to provide the people an open, fair, efficient, and independent system for the advancement of justice under the law.

UTAH JUDICIAL COUNCIL

The Utah Judicial Council directs the activities of the Utah State Court System. The Judicial Council is responsible for adopting uniform rules for the administration of all courts in the state, setting standards for judicial performance, court facilities, support services and judicial and non-judicial staff levels. The Judicial Council holds monthly meetings usually at Matheson Courthouse in Salt Lake City. These meeting are open and may be attended by interested parties.

Utah Judicial Council 2002

Chief Justice Richard C. Howe, *Utah Supreme Court, Chair*  
Justice Michael J. Wilkins, *Utah Supreme Court*  
Judge James Z. Davis, *Utah Court of Appeals, Vice Chair*  
Judge Lynn W. Davis, *Fourth District Court*  
Judge L. A. Dever, *Third District Court*  
Judge Ben H. Hadfield, *First District Court*  
Judge Robert K. Hilder, *Third District Court*  
Judge Lyle R. Anderson, *Seventh District Court*  
Judge Scott N. Johansen, *Seventh District Juvenile Court*  
Judge Andrew A. Valdez, *Third District Juvenile Court*  
Judge Ronald Hare, *Justice Court Judge*  
Judge Jerald L. Jensen, *Justice Court Judge*  
Judge Claire Poulson, *Justice Court Judge*  
Debra Moore, Esq., *Utah State Bar Representative*  
Daniel J. Becker, *Secretariat*

Awards & Honors 2001

Hon. Ray M. Harding Sr. - Judge of the Year, *Utah State Bar Association*  
Hon. Sharon P. McCully - Judge of the Year, *Utah State Bar Association*  
Hon. Anne M. Stirba - Judge of the Year, *Utah State Bar Association*  
Hon. Tyrone Medley  
*Raymond S. Uno Award for the Advancement of Minorities in the Legal Profession*  
Hon. Andrew Valdez  
*Honorary Degree of Humane Letters from Salt Lake Community College*  
Daniel Becker  
*Distinguished Service Award, National Center for State Courts*  
Online Court Assistance Program  
*2001 Justice Achievement Award, National Association of Court Management*  
Utah State Court Website  
*Council of State Government's Eagle Award of Excellence*  
Parent-to-Parent Juvenile Court Video  
*CINDY Award, International Association of Audio Visual Communicators*

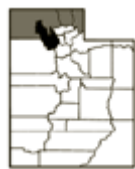
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

The Court Administrator Act provides for the appointment of a State Court Administrator with duties and responsibilities as outlined on Section 78-3-24 of the Utah Code. The State Court Administrator is assisted by appellate, district, juvenile, and justice court administrators, as well as by court executives. Also assisting are personnel who work in the Administrative Office in human resources, public information, planning, finance, technology, judicial education, security, mediation and general counsel. The Administrative Office serves as staff to the Judicial Council, rules committees, boards of judges, standing and ad hoc committees, and nominating commissions.

Justice Courts Serving Local Communities

There are currently 137 justice courts throughout Utah. Because they are locally managed, and because there are so many of them, justice courts are able to focus on local communities and their court related needs. The mission statement of Utah's justice courts is to "improve the quality of life in our communities." Justice courts are where zoning violations are heard and small claims cases are tried. These and others are the kinds of cases that directly affect the quality of life for individuals in the community, and justice courts are well equipped to address these kinds of issues.

Justice courts hear by far the largest number of cases in Utah's courts. This year there will be well over 300,000 cases filed in Utah justice courts, including more than half of all DUIs. As the number of cases heard in justice courts continues to increase, they are becoming even better equipped to handle the responsibility. One project that came to fruition this year was the Justice Court Technology Initiative. A group of professionals was put together to develop a strategy for automating all justice courts in a uniform way. By 2003, all justice courts will be both receiving criminal justice information and reporting dispositions of criminal cases electronically. Eventually, the goal is to have a completely automated process, from the issuance of citations to the electronic transfer of information to the courts, and from the courts to the criminal justice data agencies.



## 1st Judicial District

*Box Elder, Cache, Rich Counties*

The First District courts are settled snugly and comfortably in the mountains of northern Utah. They are geographically located in three counties: Box Elder, Cache, and Rich. Each First District court has been working on special projects including public service skills, case management, and cultural issues.

**Drug Court in Logan** - A drug court pilot program was recently initiated in the First District. Drug courts are unique in that they work with the offender to attack the root of the criminal behavior – addiction. Those enrolled in the program must maintain full-time employment, submit to random drug screenings, and attend counseling. Modeled after other successful drug courts, the program seeks to do more than just administer the same ineffective punishment to the same repeat offenders. The first drug court "graduation" was recently held in Logan. As of December 2001, 48 people were enrolled in the First District drug court program.

**Improving Customer Service Skills** - This past year, First District Court has focused on improving customer and internal service skills. District-wide training was held to reinforce staff understanding of proper procedures and exemplary customer service skills. Case management procedures have been evaluated and adjustments made. In 2001, the district made changes in calendaring, worked with public defenders, and balanced case assignments.

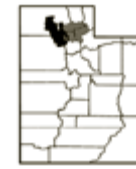
**Victim-Offender Mediation for Juveniles** - Thanks to the efforts of the Administrative Office of the Courts Mediation Program, the First District Juvenile Court now has twenty-two group facilitators who are trained to meet with victims and juveniles to resolve victim and restitution issues. The middle schools in Box Elder County have been targeted for a pilot program for these trained facilitators to meet with school personnel, parents, and the juveniles to resolve school attendance issues before a referral to the court is considered. If this program works in Box Elder County as it has in other counties, it may be expanded into Cache County in the next school year.

**New Courthouse in Logan** - The First Judicial District received approval for a new court facility in Logan. The existing courthouse long ago became too small to adequately conduct the Logan community's court business. The new court facility will be conveniently located across the street from the current District Courthouse and will house the District Court, the Juvenile Court, juvenile court probation offices, and the local Guardian ad Litem office. The building should be completed in 18 months and will be a great addition to the community.



### Quick Facts

Population: 133,246  
Geographic size: 7916 sq. miles  
Court Locations: 3  
District Court Judges and Commissioners: 4.25  
Juvenile Court Judges: 2  
District Court Filings: 8,968  
Juvenile Court Referrals: 3,760



## 2nd Judicial District

*Weber, Davis, Morgan Counties*

The Second Judicial District serves Weber, Davis, and Morgan Counties, with court facilities in Ogden, Farmington, Layton, Bountiful, and Morgan.

**Judicial Rotation** - In 2001, all district court judges in Davis County began a rotation in which each judge holds court at each of the court locations in the county. This rotation gives the judges an opportunity to interact with the local bar and citizenry of Bountiful, Farmington and Layton, and provides a more even distribution of judicial workload.

**Innovations in Case Management** - A Domestic Case Manager now handles contested divorce cases in Weber and Davis Counties. Once it is determined that a divorce will be contested, the case manager meets with the parties and attempts to facilitate a resolution to the case. As of November 2001, the case manager was resolving just over 50% of the cases before they go to trial. This case management technique reduces case processing time for both the parties and the Court.

**Drug Courts** - The Second District Court is cooperating with the Department of Corrections on a Parolee Drug Court. This is a drug court program specifically for those who are paroled from prison. In addition, drug courts operating in Davis and Weber Counties have been expanded.

All five judges in Second District Juvenile Court and two 10-member staff teams participated in drug court training in anticipation of the implementation of a juvenile delinquency drug court. Collaboration with school districts, mental health providers, public defenders, prosecutors, and the community has played a major role in preparing for this drug court.

**Assisting Self-represented Litigants** - In Davis County, a local attorney visits the district court weekly to answer questions, primarily about domestic issues, from self-represented litigants. This service helps clerks reduce the time they spend answering questions and avoids the ethical problems of court staff providing legal advice.

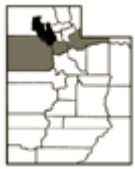
**Cultural Awareness Training** - In an effort to ensure the public has a fair forum to have their cases heard, court staff is participating in Cultural Competency Training. This is in response to recommendations made by the Task Force on Racial and Ethnic Fairness.

**Work Restitution** - Second District Juvenile Court and Utah State University's Extension Program are collaborating to grow plant starts in USU's greenhouse in Kaysville. The juveniles will work side by side with extension students and staff who will teach them new skills as well as some environmental education.

### Quick Facts

Population: 434,739  
Geographic size: 1489 sq. miles  
Court Locations: 6  
District Court Judges and Commissioners: 15.75  
Juvenile Court Judges: 5  
District Court Filings: 62,125  
Juvenile Court Referrals: 10,738





## 3rd Judicial District

Salt Lake, Summit, Tooele Counties

The Third Judicial District, located around the Wasatch front, is the largest judicial district in the state. Comprised of Salt Lake, Summit, and Tooele Counties, Third District includes two of the counties listed in the 2000 census as the fastest growing in the state. The Third Judicial District, like other high caseload districts, has separate facilities and administrative support for district and juvenile courts.

**Problem Solving Courts in Salt Lake City** - A Mental Health Court was initiated by the Third District in July 2001 as a pilot program approved by the Judicial Council. The Mental Health Court has had a very positive response from the community by providing options for counseling for defendants that have not before been available. Other problem-solving courts in the district and juvenile courts include drug courts and dependency drug courts. In addition, tobacco court is held once a month for juveniles who have been referred to juvenile court for smoking violations, where dispositions are specific to tobacco education and cessation.

**Technology at Work** - An improved system for electronic imaging of judgments and decrees was implemented with assistance from the Administrative Office of the Courts. Imaged documents are available on the front counter clerks' terminals for regular and certified copies.

**Mentoring Juveniles** - Mentoring at Third District Juvenile Court finds its roots in the courtroom, where the need was seen for appropriate role models for the youth coming to court. Since 1995, the Village Project has matched 450 youth with mentors. This program is an excellent example of a successful community outreach effort by dedicated judges and staff.

**Work Restitution Program** - Community service projects performed by juvenile work crews include litter removal with UDOT, graffiti removal with Taylorsville City, and janitorial duties with the Jordan School District. In 2001, a weekly "employment workshop" class was conducted for youth assigned to the crews. In this class, interviewing and employment skills such as dress code, hygiene, how to communicate, and how to fill out an application, were discussed.

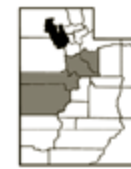
**A New Courthouse in Summit County** - In October of 2001, the new Summit County Justice Center addition was dedicated. The new facility houses the District and Juvenile Court personnel along with the County Attorney staff. This consolidation of resources and facilities is working well to serve the public in Summit County.



Silver Summit Justice Center

### Quick Facts

Population: 911,994  
Geographic size: 9,554 sq miles  
Court Locations: 7  
District Court Judges and Commissioners: 34  
Juvenile Court Judges and Commissioners: 9  
District Court Filings: 145,702  
Juvenile Court Referrals: 19,723



## 4th Judicial District

Juab, Millard, Utah, Wasatch Counties

The Fourth Judicial District can be characterized as an urban and growing district with just a dash of rural interest. Comprised of Utah, Millard, Juab and Wasatch Counties, the Fourth District includes the Provo-Orem area as well as Heber City, Nephi and Fillmore. Fourth District has nine courthouses in operation, some of which are separate juvenile and district court facilities and some of which are co-located.

**Judges in the Community** - The Fourth District Judges are involved in organizing and participating in anti-drug presentations to junior high and middle schools in the Provo/Orem area. The judges work with individuals from the Utah County Attorney's Office, the local Adult Probation and Parole Office, and the County Jail to present their anti-drug message. The presentation has been very well received. Juvenile courts judges are also working with community leaders on teen pregnancy, parents with drug dependency and truancy issues.

**Addressing Cultural Diversity** - For a number of years, Fourth District Judge Lynn Davis has spearheaded a statewide effort to provide well-qualified interpreters to linguistic minorities in the court system and translate selected court documents into other languages.

**Juveniles in Drug Court** - Fourth District has four juvenile drug courts, currently serving 60 youth. The youth are placed on intensive probation and must meet with the judge on a weekly basis. They are tracked to ensure regular school attendance and attendance at therapy sessions, and are given random drug tests.

**Juveniles at Work** - Some of the work restitution projects in Fourth District Juvenile Court include: TAG (Teens Against Graffiti), Litter Control for UDOT, Provo City Parks, Orem City Poles Maintenance, Spanish Fork Arena Horse Stall Maintenance, and Lindon City Street Maintenance. A project in which juvenile work crews "adopted" a group of senior citizens in the Payson area was recently recognized for its community service. The juveniles perform work for the seniors as needed -- maintaining yards, raking leaves, washing windows, painting, shoveling snow, or running errands. The project bridges generations, builds trust for a vulnerable age group, and gives humanitarian experiences to young offenders.

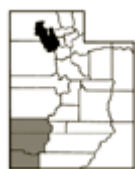
**A New Court Facility** - A new courthouse in American Fork will be finished and occupied sometime in 2002. It will be a combination courthouse/public safety building and is being built by American Fork City. The Courts will have a long-term lease in the building which will include facilities for the District Court, Juvenile Probation and a traveling Juvenile Court Judge. The new building will replace cramped and out-dated space in the current American Fork public safety building, and will be an asset to a community experiencing significant growth in its caseload.

### Quick Facts

Population: 395,703  
Geographic size: 13,160 sq miles  
Court Locations: 8  
District Court Judges and Commissioners: 13  
Juvenile Court Judges: 4  
District Court Filings: 61,318  
Juvenile Court Referrals: 8,035







## 5th Judicial District

Beaver, Iron, Washington Counties

Comprised of once sleepy Washington, Iron, and Beaver Counties, the Fifth Judicial District is a district in transition. Washington and Iron Counties are now ranked as the second and third fastest growing counties in the State of Utah (2000 Census). In the last ten years, the general population of Washington, Iron, and Beaver counties has grown by 56,024 people. This is the equivalent of a new city larger than St. George springing up within the district in just ten years.

**A Change in the Juvenile Court Bench** - Judge Thomas M. Higbee is the most recently appointed judge in this district. Judge Higbee replaced Judge Joseph E. Jackson on the Juvenile Court bench. Judge Jackson retired in January 2000 after twenty-four years of outstanding service.

**Video Arraignments Improve Security and Efficiency** - The Fifth District Court locations in Cedar City and St. George have both installed video arraignment equipment during the past year. This technology allows judges in St. George and Cedar City to communicate with inmates at the Washington and Iron Counties jail facilities through video and audio. By significantly decreasing the number of inmates being transported daily between the jails and the courtrooms, costs are reduced, and security is improved.

**Drug Court in St. George** - The St. George Drug Court is the recipient of a \$474,000 federal grant over the next three years. Now into its second year of operation, the Drug Court is an innovative departure from the traditional way of dealing with individuals having a substance abuse problem.

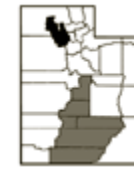
**Expanding the Cedar City Court Facility** - The Cedar City Hall of Justice has received funding and approval to move ahead with an addition to the facility. Construction on the new addition is scheduled to begin in November of 2001 and should be completed sometime in the summer of 2002.



Video Arraignment in Washington County

### Quick Facts

Population: 130,138  
Geographic size: 8,315 sq miles  
Court Locations: 4  
District Court Judges: 4  
Juvenile Court Judges: 2  
District Court Filings: 10,871  
Juvenile Court Referrals: 3,434



## 6th Judicial District

Garfield, Kane, Piute, Sanpete, Sevier, Wayne Counties

The Sixth Judicial District is bordered on the north by Utah County and on the south by Arizona.

Sixth District is the largest, geographically, and the smallest, in terms of population, of all the judicial districts. It occupies 18.2 percent of the land in the state and includes 2.6 percent of the population.

**Coordination and Communication** - Travel is a major consideration for this rural district. Each of the three judges in the Sixth District spends 25% of their time in the car, traveling for court. However, traveling is not a consideration just for judges. Travel for the public is equally difficult. The worst-case scenario is the person living in Bullfrog needing to attend court in Kanab, the Kane County seat, a whopping 315 miles away. With such a sprawling district and limited resources, coordination is key. Phones, computers, e-mail, and faxes are used to address many of the coordination and communication needs.

**Contracting Court Services** - The District and Juvenile Courts are required by statute to hold court in each county. Because the volume of court cases is low in these less populated areas, the state does not retain full-time court staff and facilities in Garfield, Kane, Piute, Sanpete, and Wayne Counties. These services are provided through contract with each of the counties. Additionally, staff for the Juvenile Court is housed in only three locations within the District.

**Tracking Serious Youth Offenders** - The Sixth District is the only rural district to date to implement the Serious Habitual Offender Comprehensive Action Program or SHOCAP. This program is a highly coordinated effort between several agencies, schools, law enforcement, and the court to monitor and treat the serious habitual youth offender. Since its inception in Sevier County, the project has produced real benefits - including improved communication of information among the agencies involved, and increased supervision. Not only do serious habitual offenders have probation officers or case managers supervising them, but also all the agencies and their representatives are involved.

**Mutual Assistance Between Courts** - The judges of Sixth District are committed to the concept of mutual assistance. The Juvenile Court Judge Paul Lyman has agreed to assist the District Court by hearing the domestic matters and other district court matters as needed. Likewise, District Court Judges McIlff and Mower have agreed to hear matters for each other and the Juvenile Court as needed. This level of cooperation increases the courts' ability to deliver timely hearings.

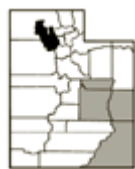
**Work Restitution** - In 1999 the youth of Sixth District completed 56,330 community service hours, restoring to their communities over \$225,000 worth of service. They also paid \$75,000 in fines and fees, and \$51,000 in restitution was paid directly to victims of juvenile crime.

### Quick Facts

Population: 56,689  
Geographic size: 15,883 sq miles  
Court Locations: 6  
District Court Judges: 2  
Juvenile Court Judges: 1  
District Court Filings: 2,415  
Juvenile Court Referrals: 1,672



Utah State Courts Facility in Richfield



## 7th Judicial District

*Serving Carbon, Emery, Grand, San Juan Counties*

The Seventh District comprises the southeastern quarter of the state. It is rich in national parks and monuments and attracts many visitors from around the world. Moab, in particular, is a destination spot for tourists, including international visitors, and presents interesting challenges for court staff and judges. The Seventh District is also an energy-producing region with large coal mining and electric power generation, and coal bed methane natural gas operations. It has a colorful history due to its mining, ranching, and ethnic diversity.

**Case Management Improves Service to the Public** - A focus on case management has resulted in policies that have proven to be very efficient, making the court process timelier and less confusing to the public. Some of these measures include:

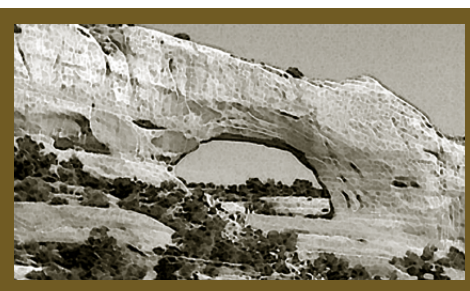
- Mediation for all contested divorces and child dependency and/or neglect cases.
- A strict continuance policy and 14-day jury rule in which parties that are settling a case must do so 14 days before the date of the jury trial thus eliminating the need to call jurors in for a case that will not be tried.
- An arraignment waiver process implemented in Juvenile Court. All contested matters that are anticipated to settle must do so before the setting of a trial date.

**Drug Court Succeeds** - Emery County's Drug Court serves adults and juveniles as well as family members facing dependency issues as a result of substance abuse.

**Community Work Restitution for Adults as Well as Juveniles** - Seventh District's Community Work Program serves both juveniles and adults. Both Juvenile and District courts now have full access to community work programs for offenders to work off community service hours.

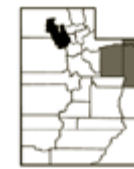
**Truancy Court** - Judge Mary Manley has initiated a Truancy Court program in which she travels to local high schools to hear cases and conduct reviews.

**Cross Training Court Staff** - All clerical staff in the Seventh District are cross-trained in both Juvenile and District Courts to better serve the public.



### Quick Facts

Population: 55,105  
 Geographic size: 17,433 sq miles  
 Court Locations: 4  
 District Court Judges: 3  
 Juvenile Court Judges: 2  
 District Court Filings: 3,311  
 Juvenile Court Referrals: 1,853



## 8th Judicial District

*Serving Daggett, Duchesne, Uintah Counties*

The Eighth District is located in the northeast corner of Utah. This district is comprised of Daggett, Duchesne and Uintah counties. The highest mountain in the State of Utah, Kings Peak, is located in this district, along with 113 fresh water lakes in the nearby mountains. Additionally, the world famous Green River and Flaming Gorge are located within the district's boundaries. This district includes four court sites. The three judges in this district travel frequently.

**New Court Complex** - In 1994, plans began for a new Vernal Court Complex and after 18 months of construction, the new Vernal Eighth Judicial District Court Complex has been completed. The new complex houses Juvenile and District Courts along with the Office of Guardian ad Litem. An open house, held in October of 2001, was well attended by the local community.

**Historical Community Picture Project** - As the completion of the new Eighth Judicial District Court Complex neared an end, community members and businesses were asked if they would be willing to share historic pictures and have them displayed in the new court complex. Community members donated several historical photos. Businesses and citizens of the Basin contributed to having these historical pictures enlarged and framed.

**Drug Court** - Eighth District Court now boasts 13 drug court "graduations." Drug courts continue to enjoy success and community support. The drug court program has also been expanded to include parents in child welfare cases.

**Mediation** - After training mediation volunteers, the Eighth District Juvenile Court has been conducting both truancy and victim offender mediations. The Victim Offender Mediation has had a 90% success rate of settling cases out of court. Students who participated in truancy mediation have shown a 65% improvement in their school attendance.

**Garden Project** - The Eighth District Juvenile Court continues to observe success with its annual garden work program. This garden project is now self-supporting and has been a great learning process for the youth involved.

### Quick Facts

Population: 40,378  
 Geographic size: 8,414 sq miles  
 Court Locations: 4  
 District Court Judges: 2  
 Juvenile Court Judges: 1  
 District Court Filings: 3,648  
 Juvenile Court Referrals: 1,670



New Vernal Courthouse